

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims as follows:

1-10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A bone screw comprising:

a head having a first outer diameter, and

a cannulated shaft extending distally from the head and having a longitudinal axis, the cannulated shaft further comprising a proximal section adjoining the head and having a second outer diameter smaller than the first outer diameter, an outer wall of the proximal section being at least partially threaded, and a distal section extending distally from the proximal section and being attached to the proximal section by way of a ball-and-socket joint, wherein the ball-and-socket joint includes a ball in contact with one of the proximal section and the distal section.

12. (Previously Presented) The bone screw of claim 11, wherein the distal section comprises the ball, and the proximal section comprises the socket.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously Presented) The bone screw of claim 11, wherein the distal section is at least partially threaded.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously Presented) The bone screw of claim 11, wherein the length of the shaft is constant.

17. (Previously Presented) The bone screw of claim 11, wherein the proximal section has a larger diameter than the distal section.

18. (Previously Presented) The bone screw of claim 11, wherein the distal section is allowed to deflect no more than about 90 degrees relative to the longitudinal axis.

19. (Previously Presented) The bone screw of claim 11, wherein the distal section is allowed to deflect no more than about 30 degrees relative to the longitudinal axis.

20. (Previously Presented) The bone screw of claim 11, wherein the ball has an octagonal shape.

21. (Previously Presented) The bone screw of claim 11, wherein the distal section is rotatable relative to the proximal section about the longitudinal axis.

22. (Withdrawn) A method for inserting a bone screw comprising: inserting a guide wire into the body; drilling a first hole into a first bone segment; inserting the bone screw over the guide wire and at least partially within the first hole; and removing the guide wire, thereby allowing the screw to bend.

23. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 22, wherein the bone screw has a head, and a shaft having a longitudinal axis, a proximal section adjoining the head, and a distal section; wherein the distal section is rotatably attached to the proximal section.

24. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 22, wherein the bone screw has a cannulated shaft.

25. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 22, wherein the first bone segment is a collarbone.

26. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 22, further comprising the step of inserting at least a portion of the bone screw into a second bone segment.

27. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 26, wherein the second bone segment does not have a pre-drilled hole.

28. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 26, wherein the second bone segment is a coracoideus process.

29. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 26, wherein the bone screw has a shaft having a proximal section inserted into the first bone segment and a distal section inserted into the second bone segment.

30. (Currently Amended) A bone screw, comprising: a head, a cannulated shaft extending distally from the head and having a longitudinal axis, a proximal section adjoining the head, wherein the proximal section is at least partially threaded, and a distal section polyaxially associated with and in contact with the proximal section, the distal section being separated from the head by the proximal section.